



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 8

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Sunny, breezy days allowed a great deal of field work to be accomplished during the week, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn harvest was slowed because of limited dryer capacities at the elevators and on farms. Soybean harvest is nearing completion in a few northern and central areas with only extremely late planted soybeans left at this point. Topsoil moisture level remains high in many areas resulting in rutted fields as harvest progresses. Corn harvest is running about 25 days behind the average pace and soybean harvest is running about 15 days behind average.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 6.0 **days suitable for field work** during the week. **Corn condition** is rated 62 percent good to excellent. Forty-one percent of the corn crop has been **harvested** compared to 87 percent last year and 86 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 37 percent of the corn acreage has been harvested in the north, 39 percent in the central region and 57 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested corn is averaging about 23 percent.

Eighty-one percent of the **soybean** acreage has been **harvested** compared with 96 percent last year and 94 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 83 percent of the soybean acreage has been harvested in the north, 88 percent in the central region and 63 percent in the south. **Moisture** content of harvested soybeans is averaging about 13.5 percent.

Seventy-three percent of the **Winter Wheat** acreage has been **planted** compared to 97 percent last year and 96 percent for the 5-year average. Forty percent of the winter wheat has **emerged** compared with 87 percent last year and 83 percent for the 5-year average.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Adequate moisture and moderate temperatures have left pastures in remarkably good condition for this time of year. Livestock remain in mostly good condition with very little weather related stress being reported. Hay is in good supply with very little being fed so far this fall.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
Percent				
Corn Mature	97	93	100	100
Corn Harvested	41	28	87	86
Soybeans Harvested	81	63	96	94
Winter Wheat Planted	73	55	97	96
Winter Wheat Emerged	40	21	87	83

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	3	8	27	49	13
Winter Wheat	2	5	54	36	3

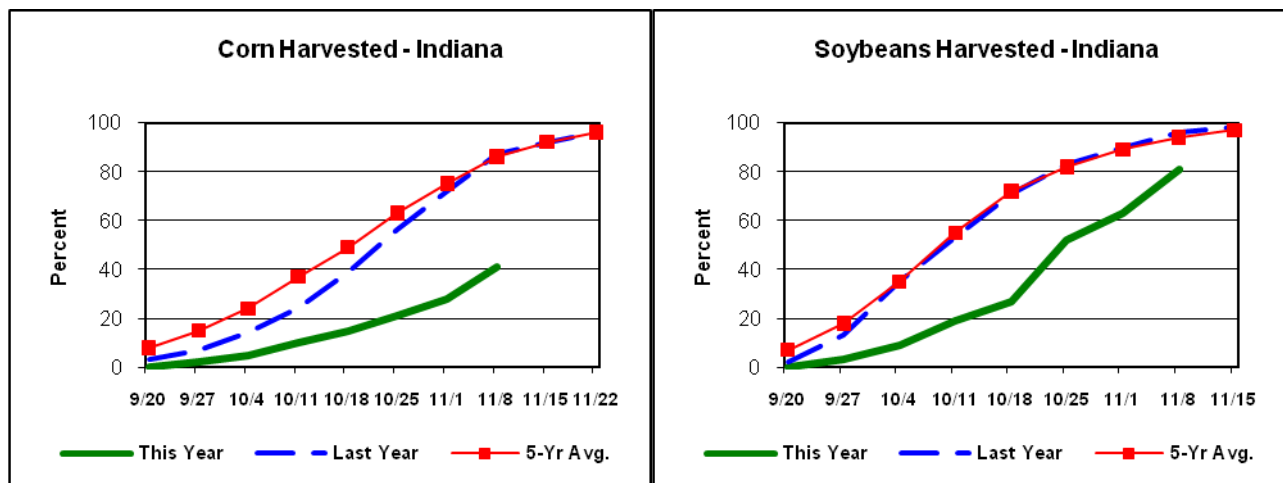
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	8
Short	2	1	37
Adequate	75	45	54
Surplus	23	54	1
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	0	13
Short	4	4	36
Adequate	75	63	49
Surplus	21	33	2
Days Suitable	6.0	2.8	6.3

CONTACT INFORMATION

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http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/

Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Drying Soybeans in 2009

The cool and wet fall coupled with a desire to get into the field as soon as possible following rainy weather has many producers throughout the state harvesting soybeans at higher than normal moisture contents. Harvest moistures have been ranging from 10% - 20%. With this wide variation in moisture many growers are questioning what to do, particularly with the soybeans that are above the "safe" storage moisture of 13%. Producers should approach the issue of drying beans with caution. High drying temperatures of 160 – 180°F can lead to excessive seed coat cracking, thus resulting in more splits. Drying will produce fewer splits if the air relative humidity is kept above 40%. For example, if outside air is 60°F with a relative humidity of 80%, it should not be heated above 80°F because when heated to that temperature air relative humidity will be 40%.

Medium temperature drying: In situations where continuous flow dryers or bin dryers are utilized, higher temperatures may be used on high moisture beans. However, soybean exposure should be limited. If seed quality or splits are not a major consideration soybeans may be dried in continuous flow driers at temperatures ranging from 120 -140°F. Exposure to these temperatures should be limited to no more than one-half hour, depending on the initial moisture of the beans. When heat is added to bin dryers, it should be intermittent so that the beans are not exposed to high heat for an extended period of time.

Low temperature drying: Natural air drying is another acceptable means by which to dry soybeans. With adequate ambient temperatures, and lower humidity, 2 - 3 points of moisture can easily be removed in a bin. This assumes that the bin is equipped with a drying floor

that will produce uniform airflow. Typically 1 to 2 cfm/bu is desirable for natural air drying. Growers should be aware that this process may take up to several weeks to complete depending on the depth of the grain mass. The natural air drying process can be speeded by placing a layer in the bin and drying that layer before the next is added. Another option is to use a bin equipped with stirrers that thoroughly mixes the grain within the bin during drying. Here again, careful monitoring of the bin is important to make sure excessive splits are not occurring, particularly during stirring.

Further considerations: If high moisture beans were added to a bin early and then lower moisture beans were added to the same bin over the next several days, operators should expect the drier beans to eventually pick up moisture. As the air moves through the wet beans at the bottom of the bin it will dry them but then carry the moisture to the grain above. Given enough time, the moisture will be pushed completely through the grain mass.

For more information regarding handling and storage of high moisture soybeans see "Grain Quality Fact Sheet #27 Harvesting, Drying, and Storage of Frost Damaged Corn and Soybeans" at <<http://www.grainquality.org>>. Click on "Extension Publications" tab and then go to "Drying, Conditioning and Aeration"

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(Additional Article on Back Page)

Weather Information Table

Week Ending Sunday November 8, 2009

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation					
								April 1, 2009 thru					
	Air							November 8, 2009					
	Temperature			Precip.	4in			Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F		
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Soil Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	
Northwest (1)													
Chalmers_5W	71	28	46	-2	0.05	1		27.88	+2.49	91	2670	-553	
Francesville	70	28	45	+1	0.00	0		28.17	+2.28	81	2611	-329	
Valparaiso_AP_I	71	29	47	+2	0.00	0		24.77	-3.33	84	2786	-163	
Wanatah	72	26	45	+1	0.00	0	47	29.68	+2.86	93	2484	-310	
Winamac	70	30	46	+2	0.00	0		24.02	-1.87	81	2692	-248	
North Central(2)													
Plymouth	71	29	45	+0	0.00	0		26.79	+0.06	102	2618	-481	
South_Bend	70	30	47	+2	0.00	0		29.15	+2.97	82	2784	-120	
Young_America	72	29	49	+4	0.00	0		27.91	+2.62	63	2739	-297	
Northeast (3)													
Fort_Wayne	69	30	46	+2	0.00	0		26.81	+3.71	85	2925	-127	
Kendallville	72	35	48	+4	0.02	1		23.23	-0.88	98	2950	+77	
West Central(4)													
Greencastle	69	28	46	-3	0.03	1		37.97	+8.93	93	2725	-743	
Perrysville	73	30	48	+3	0.00	0	46	37.32	+10.37	88	3054	-157	
Spencer_Ag	71	29	47	+2	0.00	0		40.84	+11.83	87	3047	-185	
Terre_Haute_AFB	71	30	49	+2	0.00	0		27.48	+0.12	74	3334	-107	
W_Lafayette_6NW	72	29	45	-1	0.00	0	51	31.25	+5.70	84	2886	-151	
Central (5)													
Eagle_Creek_AP	70	32	48	+2	0.02	1		34.24	+8.64	84	3346	-58	
Greenfield	70	29	46	-1	0.04	1		40.16	+12.07	89	2949	-319	
Indianapolis_AP	70	33	49	+2	0.01	1		37.71	+12.11	81	3479	+75	
Indianapolis_SE	69	28	46	-2	0.03	1		40.44	+14.10	86	2944	-453	
Tipton_Ag	69	28	45	+1	0.00	0	52	32.14	+5.67	88	2766	-170	
East Central(6)													
Farmland	70	26	45	+1	0.00	0	46	24.76	-0.42	82	2822	-40	
New_Castle	69	26	45	-2	0.00	0		34.24	+7.22	84	2723	-212	
Southwest (7)													
Evansville	73	34	53	+4	0.00	0		36.98	+10.82	80	3979	+5	
Freelandville	72	34	50	+2	0.01	1		44.27	+17.16	82	3422	-137	
Shoals_8S	72	28	47	-2	0.02	1		43.97	+14.54	81	3094	-358	
Stendal	74	37	53	+5	0.00	0		46.66	+17.64	80	3872	+145	
Vincennes_5NE	74	33	51	+4	0.01	1	52	43.60	+16.49	88	3571	+12	
South Central(8)													
Leavenworth	73	32	49	+2	0.00	0		48.29	+18.66	110	3456	+29	
Oolitic	70	29	48	+1	0.04	2	46	38.94	+10.60	95	3152	-126	
Tell_City	73	35	51	+0	0.00	0		38.89	+9.28	76	3765	-91	
Southeast (9)													
Brookville	72	27	46	+0	0.03	1		33.39	+6.23	82	3196	+95	
Greensburg	70	29	47	+1	0.00	0		40.49	+13.12	85	3356	+172	
Seymour	70	28	48	+1	0.00	0		43.56	+16.42	76	3076	-195	

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DFN = Departure From Normal.
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

For more weather information, visit www.awis.com
or call 1-888-798-9955.

Soil Management for Harvest Ruts

Combines working in wet conditions to harvest crops have formed ruts in fields. About three-fourths of combine mass and virtually all of loaded grain tank weight are carried on the combine front axle. With good yields, grain tank extensions, and a 12-row head, front axle load can be 18 to 20 tons.

The consequences of such wet conditions are significant soil compaction caused by this heavy equipment and yield reductions that will be realized next season. Compacted soil created beneath the rut may interfere with subsequent crop rooting and development. Ruts deeper than about two inches can also interfere with maintaining seed depth during planter operation next spring, unless they are leveled.

Using tillage to loosen the soil and relieve compaction requires soil to be dry enough so that soil shattering is effective. Because soil moisture has refilled the top 12 to 24 inches of the soil profile, deep tillage with a chisel plow or subsoiler this fall or next spring will use fuel and time – but is unlikely to loosen soil effectively between tillage shanks. However, the full soil moisture profile in upper layers will freeze and thaw over the winter and help loosen soil, depending on air temperatures and snow cover. Entering the field this fall in wet moisture conditions for deep tilling or any type of tillage will be counter productive by creating much deeper soil compaction.

Ruts deeper than planting depth will need to be leveled before planter operation. A good strategy may be to wait until a week or two before planting next spring and use a light tillage pass, such as with a field cultivator, light disk, harrow, or soil finisher. If only a portion of the field is rutted, consider tilling only that area to avoid recompacting subsoil in other parts of

the field. Waiting until warmer weather next spring allows for some potential drying of the top two or three inches of soil and avoids further compaction of wet, plastic soil on the surface – which will happen with a tillage pass this fall. If compaction effects are observed during the 2010 growing season and soil is dry after harvest, tillage next fall may be considered deep enough to break through the compacted layer.

Summary

- Rutting creates compacted soil and an irregular soil surface.
- Avoid deep tillage this fall to correct the problem as wet soil does not shatter/loosen.
- Shallow tillage next spring will level ruts for planter operation.

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